



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for June 1, 2009

For More Information:
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MORSE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS MOVING FORWARD: Public Service & Transportation Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0707-2009* to complete right-of-way acquisition of parcels needed to finalize Phase 2 of the Morse Road Improvement Project. The project's goal is to turn Morse Road into a gateway for the Northland community by offering enhanced access and vehicle circulation, upgraded landscaping and lighting, and improved pedestrian access to businesses located along the corridor between Indianola and Cleveland Avenues. Additional improvements include a landscaped median, curb and gutters, street trees, sidewalks, improved streetlights and traffic signals and pedestrian crossing upgrades at intersections.

APPLYING FOR \$1.7 MILLION IN FEDERAL GRANTS: The federal government's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs in central city neighborhoods. Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0765-2009* to authorize the filing of the Community Development Block Grant Recovery application with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to secure funding made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The \$1,728,023 CDBG grant would allow Columbus to expand economic development and housing opportunities as well as provide nuisance abatement activities.

PALEY HONORING STUDENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM: Utilities Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#) will present prestigious City Council *Certificates of Recognition and Honor* to 16 extraordinary high school students who have chosen to focus their passion for the arts on improving the environment. These high school students from Central Ohio spent their winter and spring exploring art and environmental issues as part of the six-month *Art & Environment* course at the Wexner Center. The students' final projects will be featured during the *Interventions* exhibition running through June 2nd at the Wexner Center. For more information visit: wexarts.org

ZOO DAYS AT CITY COUNCIL: Some furry friends from the Columbus Zoo will visit Council Chambers to help promote the 2009 *Melvin B. Dodge Summer Zoo Days program*. Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0694-2009* to help approximately 2,000 area children enjoy Zoo Days this summer. The Columbus Zoological Park Association will provide in-kind services in the amount of \$17,500 to be used toward transportation, novelties and admission for playground participants in 2009. In conjunction with this legislation, Councilmember Tyson will present *resolution 0082X-2009* to declare June as Zoo and Aquarium Month in the city of Columbus.

IMPROVING NEIGHBORHOODS: Vacant and abandoned properties can negatively impact the property values throughout a neighborhood. Development Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) is sponsoring legislation to contract for the demolition of structures found to be public nuisances and unsafe under the Demolition Program. *Ordinance 0505-2009* authorizes the expenditure of \$55,000 to amend a contract to continue the demolition of unsafe structures without interruption.

MILLER IMPLEMENTING COST-SAVING TECHNOLOGY: Councilmember [A. Troy Miller](#) is sponsoring legislation that will offer residents more convenient and efficient methods to access Columbus Recreation & Parks facilities. *Ordinance 0354-2009* will appropriate \$66,452.06 to install a centralized database for around-the-clock access for citizens looking to register for activities and facility rentals online. The system will also provide ID cards for individuals who participate in city events in addition to marketing and informational tools that will help keep citizens informed of various programs and activities.

Councilmember Tavares will hold the regularly scheduled Health, Housing & Human Services/Workforce Development Committees Hearing on June 3, 2009 at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers